

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the removal of carbon dioxide from a gas stream containing carbon dioxide by washing the gas stream with an aqueous washing solution containing between 15 and 45 parts by weight ~~based on total solution of~~ water, between 15 and 40 parts by weight ~~based on total solution of~~ sulfolane and between 30 and 60 parts by weight ~~based on total solution of a secondary or tertiary~~ of an amine selected from the group of amines consisting of MEA, DEA, TEA, DIPA and MDEA, derived from ethanol amine, wherein the parts by weights are based on the amounts of water, sulfolane and amine together being 100 parts by weight, ~~the process being carried out in the presence of a primary or secondary amine compound in an amount between 0.5 and 15 wt% based on water, sulfolane and amine and,~~ further, wherein the aqueous washing solution contains piperazine in an amount in the range of from 0.7 mol/l to 0.9 mol/l.

2. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein the gas stream is natural gas or synthesis gas.

3. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 2, wherein the gas stream includes an amount of carbon dioxide that is between 1 and 45 mol%, ~~the an~~ amount of hydrogen sulphide that is between 0 and 25 mol%, and ~~the an~~ amount of COS that is between 0 and 2 mol% (all % based on total gas stream).

4. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 3, wherein the aqueous washing solution includes an amount of water that is between 20 and 45 parts by weight, ~~the an~~ amount of sulfolane that is between 20 and 35 parts by weight, and ~~the an~~ amount of the amine that is between 40 and 55 parts by weight, wherein the parts by weights are based on the amounts of water, sulfolane and amine together being 100 parts by weight.

Claims 5-8 (Canceled).

9. (Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~84~~, wherein the ~~primary or secondary amine compound~~ is piperazine, methyl ethanol amine, or (2-aminoethyl)ethanol amine is present in the aqueous washing solution in an amount in the range of from 0.6 to 0.8 mol/l.

Claims 10-11 (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~119~~ wherein the process is carried out at a temperature of at least 20°C.

13. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 12, wherein the process also comprises a regeneration of the loaded solvent.

14. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 13, wherein the process is carried out at a pressure between 25 and 90 bara, ~~in which process the loaded solvent is flashed of at a pressure between 1 and 1 bara, followed by regeneration at a pressure between 1 and 2 bara.~~

15. (Currently Amended) An absorbent liquid containing between 15 and 45 parts by weight ~~based on total solution of~~ water, between 15 and 40 parts by weight ~~based on total solution of~~ sulfolane and between 30 and 60 parts by weight ~~based on total solution of a secondary or tertiary amine derived from ethanol~~ of an amine selected from the group of amines consisting of MEA, DEA, TEA, DIPA and MDEA, wherein the parts by weights are based on the amounts of water, sulfolane and amine together being 100 parts by weight ~~and a primary or secondary amine compound in an amount between 0.5 and 15 wt% based on water, sulfolane and amine,~~ and, further, wherein the aqueous washing solution contains piperazine in an amount in the range of from 0.7 mol/l to 0.9 mol/l.

16. (Previously Presented) The absorbent liquid as defined in claim 15, wherein the amount of water is between 20 and 45 parts by weight, the amount of sulfolane is between 20 and 35 parts by weight, and the amount of amine is between 40 and 55 parts by weight, wherein the parts by weights are based on the amounts of water, sulfolane and amine together being 100 parts by weight.

Claims 17-19 (Canceled).

20. (Currently Amended) The absorbent liquid of claim ~~19~~16, wherein the ~~primary or secondary amine compound~~ is piperazine, methyl ethanol amine, or (2-aminoethyl)ethanol amine is present in the aqueous washing solution in an amount in the range of from 0.6 to 0.8 mol/l.

Claims 21-22 (Canceled).

23. (New) The absorbent liquid of claim 20, wherein the amine is MDEA.